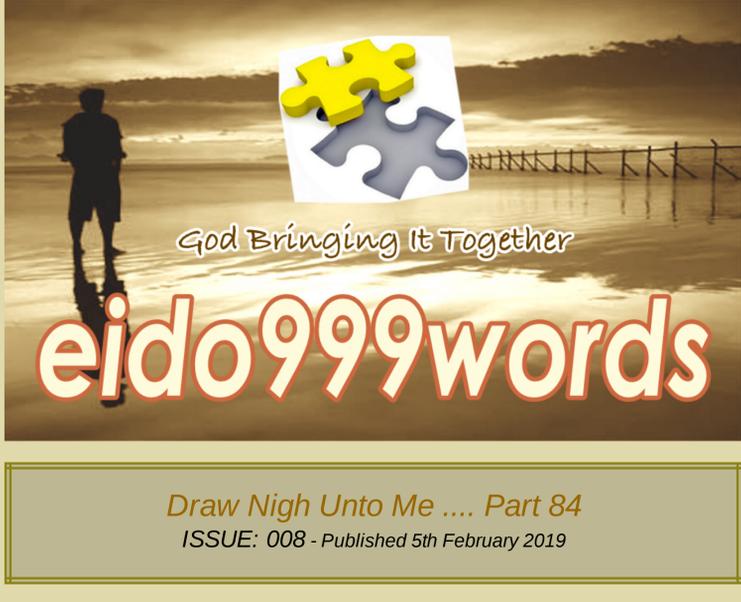


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God Bringing It Together

**eido999words**

## Draw Nigh Unto Me .... Part 84

ISSUE: 008 - Published 5th February 2019

### Defaced - Week 76

#### God's Coming Spiritual Revolution - Part 23

So how do spiritual longings retard the growth of Spiritual Desire? (continued)

Welcome to The Year of The Lord 2019, the Year of Crossroad. [more coming about that soon].

May it prove to be a year in which we corporately & individually begin to truly discover God Our Father's Plan for us to grow deeper into True Unity within His Divine Purpose.

For me personally, the year started with a very eventful January that resulted in an unplanned break in the production & issuing of these weekly sharings.

In fact, I now find it hard to believe that we are already sailing through February but nevertheless, let us pick up from here & continue on with the journey.

As a refresher, let me point out that the current sub-topic as shown in the header above commenced back on 18th September 2018 in Issue 76.

Since then the actual subject matter, surprisingly to me, began in regard to the Minor Prophet Jonah & somehow has become entirely centred on him.

In fact, that is where we last left off, discovering the true reason why the Prophetic Books of the Bible are referred to as being either major or minor.

We found that any Book of a Minor Prophet, such as Jonah, only references the fact that the Book & its writings are lesser or smaller in amount, extent or size.

Therefore, it is not to be mistaken as our natural mind is lent to, that The Prophet is of any lesser importance, rank or stature.

Further to what came forth last time in Part 75 re the natural competitiveness of man, I would now also like to point out some other natural traits we employ within our human ways of categorising people, situations & events.

Every one of us has a soul which is made up of our Mind, our Will & our Emotions.

Within the 'self-concept' what individually steers a human through life is the Personal Will, having been determined out of the working of the Mind or Emotions or a mixture of both.

And yet in truth, our every determination has to be formed from within the vast & varying limitations of both our mind & emotions.

Therefore we all naturally & readily receive, understand & put to use conceptual frameworks to 'contain or restrain' the unknown or incomprehensible variables of life to personally acceptable levels for the good of our well-being.

For pleasuring, we also are found to use them whenever we find a profitable or practical use within them for justifying our carnal thoughts or actions.

Concepts such as Winner or loser, Victor or victim, Right or wrong, Greater or lesser, Strong or weak, Good or evil, Righteous or unrighteous, Light or dark, Rich or poor, Success or failure, etc. etc.

I am sure we could all think of so many other conceptual frameworks within our daily lives in which we so readily imprison our patterns of thought.

Adam & Eve had been exposed not only to all creativity but also through it to The Creator Himself to fully experience the freedom & liberty found within God's Love & His Purity of Righteousness abounded in them.

There were no limitations for them as they were fully One With God.

For them, there was no loser, victim, wrong, lesser, weak, evil, unrighteousness, darkness, poverty or failure!

Yet were they not subtly beguiled into allowing the containment of their minds that unwittingly enlivened the concept of self that was hidden within the deceit.

Boundlessness nurtured in Oneness With God, Assured in Christ's Obedience within their Trust, now relegated to the containment & framing of minds to the fruit of the knowledge of good & evil, which is all evil!

Eventually, in Accordance to Divine Plan Jesus Came & walked this earth & was seen through natural eyes as being a radical.

Radical only because he spoke & did things unrestrained by the containment & mind framing employed by mortal man.

And his most 'passionately radical' words & actions were directed toward the state he found his Father's House in because of the exercising of it by its leaders.

Now let us follow Jesus & think 'outside of the box' as the world puts it.

So now, in mindfulness of our sub-topic subject matter, let us now take a closer look at this Minor Prophet to see what the Spirit of God may reveal of spiritual longings through the Story of Jonah.

Within a casual reading of Jonah along with the application of the conceptual framework principle, can easily be left with an impression of a man Called of God yet found to be lacking the faith to obey.

His seeming lack then challenged him while being held in the belly of a great fish, where he finally repented & obeyed only to then lament of the final result.

Such an impression, would to many, paint Jonah as somewhat of a 'loser' rather than a hero or winner & be misconstrued to uphold his 'minor prophet' label.

However, in being led to look so closely at Jonah I have come to see him in a whole new light.

**1. Jonah was a Prophet of God** - for the word of the Lord came unto him.

"Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying," **Jonah 1:1**

**2. Jonah was a man of Great Faith** - for he slept as all the others onboard were fearing the great storm.

"Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep." **Jonah 1:5**

**3. Jonah was a witness of God** - in the storm they sought his God who gave him such peace.

"So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not." **Jonah 1:6**

**4. Jonah was assured in his faith** - when challenged he openly declared his God.

"And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land." **Jonah 1:9**

**5. Jonah was a man of honesty & integrity** - he told them to throw him overboard to calm the storm.

"And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you." **Jonah 1:12**

**6. Jonah was a Vessel of God** - the men now feared the Lord greatly & made vows.

"Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows." **Jonah 1:16**

**7. Jonah was a Man of Prayer** - for in the fish's belly he turned to God.

"When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple." **Jonah 2:7**

Does this not describe what any of us would regard as a Man of Great Faith, a man spoken to directly by God, called as a Prophet of God as attested by his name adorning one of the Prophetic Books of the Holy Bible?

A man who knew & understood the very Heart of God well:

"for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil." **Jonah 4:2b**

And yet it was in this knowledge of God's Way that something actually caused Jonah to first flee, a journey that ended only in revealing that Jonah's spiritual desires were, at that time, still so very far from God's.

**Jonah 4:9-11 KJV** [emphasis added]

9 And God said to Jonah, Dost thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

10 Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

I believe, the Book of Jonah actually reveals to us how spiritual longings can & do retard the growth of Spiritual Desire, or submission to God's Will, even in people of true faith.

For the continual application of & reliance on conceptual framework principles inherent to our human nature will always destine us to crossroads that we may find we cannot cross as Jonah did.

"They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy."

**Jonah 2:8 KJV**

**The Answer: Jesus' Prayer of Submission.**

**Luke 22:42-44 KJV**

42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

**Lord teach us to let go of our spiritual longings that we might be consumed into God's Spiritual Desires as you did.**

Love,

Mwesigwa

[Defaced - Week 77 follows next week]

**Your prayers of unity with us for God's Provision are most welcome.**



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